

1. A computer-implemented method for controlling a trading account owned by a securities trader, comprising:  
receiving information including a password and data identifying the trading account and the securities trader;  
5 obtaining access to the trading account based on the information; and  
performing an action that relates to the trading account without requiring the consent of the securities trader to perform the action.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises formulating a securities trade for the securities account.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises executing a trade from the securities account.

20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises viewing trades made by the securities trader from the securities account.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises reporting trading activity from the trading account to a third party.

5           6. The method of claim 1, wherein, if the trading account has open positions, the action comprises updating the trading account.

10           7. The method of claim 6, wherein updating the trading account comprises storing information relating to trading activity that occurred within a predetermined time period.

15           8. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises setting privileges available to the securities trader on the trading account, the privileges defining operations that the trader can perform from the securities account.

20           9. The method of claim 8, wherein setting comprises modifying existing privileges of the securities trader.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein, if the securities trader has no previously-established privileges, setting comprises establishing privileges for the securities trader.

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11. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises setting login criteria to the trading account for the securities trader.

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12. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises setting a buying limit for the securities trader on the trading account.

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13. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises setting broker commission payment amounts for the securities account.

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14. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises combining one or more trades made from the securities account into a single trade.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises updating information in the trading account.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the information  
5 in the trading account comprises one or more of a user name, a password, a buying limit, a commission fee, an account number, an account type, and connections to servers for market makers.

10 17. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises viewing one or more messages sent from a server to the trading account.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the action  
15 comprises viewing one or more messages sent from the trading account to a server.

19. The method of claim 1, wherein the action  
20 comprises viewing performance of a security in the trading account.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the action comprises viewing a value of the trading account.

21. A machine-readable medium comprising  
5 instructions for controlling a trading account owned by a securities trader, the instructions causing a machine to:  
receive information including a password and data identifying the trading account and the securities trader;  
obtain access to the trading account based on the  
10 information; and  
perform an action that relates to the trading account without requiring the consent of the securities trader to perform the action.

15 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises formulating a securities trade for the securities account.

20 23. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises executing a trade from the securities account.

24. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises viewing trades made by the securities trader from the securities account.

5           25. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises reporting trading activity from the trading account to a third party.

10           26. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein, if the trading account has open positions, the action comprises updating the trading account.

15           27. The machine-readable medium of claim 26, wherein updating the trading account comprises storing information relating to trading activity that occurred within a predetermined time period.

20           28. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises setting privileges available to the securities trader on the trading account, the privileges defining operations that the trader can perform from the securities account.

29. The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein setting comprises modifying existing privileges of the securities trader.

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30. The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein, if the securities trader has no previously-established privileges, setting comprises establishing privileges for the securities trader.

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31. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises setting login criteria to the trading account for the securities trader.

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32. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises setting a buying limit for the securities trader on the trading account.

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33. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises setting broker commission payment amounts for the securities account.

34. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises combining one or more trades made from the securities account into a single trade.

5           35. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises updating information in the trading account.

10           36. The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the information in the trading account comprises one or more of a user name, a password, a buying limit, a commission fee, an account number, an account type, and connections to servers for market makers.

15           37. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises viewing one or more messages sent from a server to the trading account.

20           38. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises viewing one or more messages sent from the trading account to a server.



39. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises viewing performance of a security in the trading account.

5           40. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the action comprises viewing a value of the trading account.

41. A computer network comprising:

10           a first computer for use by a securities trader; and  
            a second computer for use by an account administrator, the account administrator controlling a trading account owned by the securities trader from the second computer;

15           wherein, the second computer executes instructions to perform functions comprising:

            receiving, from the account administrator, information including a password and data identifying the trading account and the securities trader;

20           providing the information to an authenticating server to obtain access to the trading account; and

performing an action that relates to the trading account without requiring the consent of the securities trader to perform the action.

5           42. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises formulating a securities trade for the securities account.

10           43. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises executing a trade from the securities account.

15           44. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises viewing trades made by the securities trader from the securities account.

          45. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises reporting trading activity from the trading account to a third party.

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46. The computer network of claim 41, wherein, if the trading account has open positions, the action comprises updating the trading account.

5           47. The computer network of claim 46, wherein updating the trading account comprises storing information relating to trading activity that occurred within a predetermined time period.

10           48. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises setting privileges available to the securities trader on the trading account, the privileges defining operations that the trader can perform from the securities account.

15           49. The computer network of claim 48, wherein setting comprises modifying existing privileges of the securities trader.

20           50. The computer network of claim 48, wherein, if the securities trader has no previously-established

privileges, setting comprises establishing privileges for the securities trader.

51. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the  
5 action comprises setting login criteria to the trading account for the securities trader.

52. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the  
10 action comprises setting a buying limit for the securities trader on the trading account.

53. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the  
15 action comprises setting broker commission payment amounts for the securities account.

54. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the  
action comprises combining one or more trades made from the securities account into a single trade.

20 55. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises updating information in the trading account.

56. The computer network of claim 55, wherein the information in the trading account comprises one or more of a user name, a password, a buying limit, a commission  
5 fee, an account number, an account type, and connections to servers for market makers.

57. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises viewing one or more messages sent from a  
10 server to the trading account.

58. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises viewing one or more messages sent from  
the trading account to a server.  
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59. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises viewing performance of a security in the trading account.

20 60. The computer network of claim 41, wherein the action comprises viewing a value of the trading account.